

NHSC's 25th anniversary year offers NASN a venue to highlight accomplishments of current and past providers, and to educate the public on current and future needs of America's underserved. Wolpin looks forward to the 25th Anniversary Initiative as a celebration of the impact NHSC clinicians have had in their communities, beyond improving the health of their patients. Other major initiatives for NASN include increasing networking between clinicians and promoting research into health care issues of the underserved.

NASN plans to offer a wide range of services to its membership, including a newsletter, a Web site and a member center. The member center will house a health care library for easy access to information by fax and phone and will host a peer-to-peer assistance program.

This program will build connections, facilitating advice-giving and information-sharing among the membership.

As NASN is still in the formative stage, its founding members invite suggestions and feedback from NHSC alumni, providers and scholars on current and desired services.

Most importantly, NASN is looking to bolster membership. Alumni, as members of the NHSC family, can continue to enjoy recognition for the service they have provided and the knowledge and skills they possess.

For Wolpin, NASN membership is a chance to continue serving beyond his NHSC term. "As I make my transition into private practice, I intend to dedicate some of my energies to caring for underserved people. NASN is the conduit for me to sustain my commitment to NHSC's philosophy." ■

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUIRES DISCLOSURE

If you have received a call from a private-sector recruiter, you may be wondering how they learned about your NHSC service. Please be aware that the NHSC only releases clinicians' names when formal requests are made through the Federal Freedom of Information Act. The NHSC, a Federal entity, is bound by this law and, when requests are received, must disclose NHSC clinicians' business addresses, phone numbers, disciplines, specialties and commitment end-dates.

NHSC Length of Service Awards

The NHSC Provider Recognition Program recently completed its fourth quarter for the NHSC Length of Service Awards. Eighteen clinicians, currently in practice in underserved communities, were chosen to receive awards based upon their years of dedicated service to communities in need. Awards are presented for 1, 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20+ years of service beyond the service commitment to the NHSC. Nominations may be submitted throughout the year by clinicians, sites, field offices and others. Contact your NHSC field office for more information.

ONE-YEAR AWARDS

Barbara Benzwi, MD	SLRP	Oakland, CA
Condetta H. Ness, PA-C	LRP	Northwood, ND
Richard W. Prensner, Jr., MD	LRP	Northwood, ND
Antonio Rivera, PA	SLRP	Oakland, CA
Anne Marie Valdez, PA	LRP	Ft. Lupton, CO
Alan J. Zieg, MD	LRP	San Diego, CA

THREE-YEAR AWARDS

Joseph Browne, MD	LRP	San Diego, CA
Paul M. Pelletier, MD	LRP	Eagle Lake, ME
Patri Zayas (Melendez), MD	SLRP	Oakland, CA

FIVE-YEAR AWARDS

Herminio Perez, MD	SCH	Cincinnati, OH
Susan Sykes, MD	SCH	Oakland, CA

TEN-YEAR AWARDS

William Brinton, MD	FA	Alamosa, CO
John C. Hadley, DO	SCH	Eads, CO
Clifford Hames, DDS	SCH	Peekskill, NY
Neil Korsen, MD	SCH	Kezar Falls, ME
Cynthia Robertson, MD	SCH	Bingham, ME

TWENTY-PLUS-YEARS HONORARY AWARDS

William Flewelling, FNP	FA	Leeds, ME
Frank Lang, FNP	FA	Downieville, CA

Key to Programs

SCH	=	NHSC Scholarship
SLRP	=	Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program
LRP	=	NHSC Loan Repayment Program
FA	=	Federal Assignee